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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/099,874	03/15/2002	Merle Leland Green	LUC-322/Green 1-1-1-2-32	5365
47382	7590	11/22/2005	EXAMINER	
CARMEN B. PATTI & ASSOCIATES, LLC ONE NORTH LASALLE STREET 44TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60602			SING, SIMON P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2645	

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/099,874

Applicant(s)

GREEN ET AL.

Examiner

Simon Sing

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-10,13,14,16,18-26,28-34 and 36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-10,13,14,16 and 18-21 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-26,28,29,31-34 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 33 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gordon US 5,608,786.

Gordon discloses a unified messaging system in figures 1-5, comprising:

a first voice mailbox (Tokyo UniPost Access Node) that employs an address of a location on a storage device (Toronto UniPost Access Node) to access, over an internet (it is inherent that when a voice message is selected from a message list on a computer display, the voice message's address is transmitted from the Tokyo UniPost Access Node through Internet 4 to Toronto UniPost Access Point), a voicemail message stored at the location on the storage device (column 10, lines 31-55);

a second voice mailbox (New York UniPost Access Node) that employs an address (when a user travels to New York and selects a voice message from a message list on a computer display) of a location on a storage device (Toronto UniPost Access Node) to access, over an internet, a voicemail message stored at the location on the storage device (column 10, lines 31-55);

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wherein the address comprises a domain name, a directory name and a file name (it is inherent that each message displayed has an address identifying its domain name (server), directory name (mailbox) and file name (message) in order for the unified messaging system to retrieve the message over internet); and

wherein the storage device stores an only copy (in the Toronto UniPost Access Node) of the voicemail message, wherein the voicemail message is not duplicated to either the first voice mailbox or the second voice mailbox (column 10, lines 50-55).

1.2 Regarding claim 26, as discussed in claim 25, the first voice mailbox and the second voice mailbox access the only copy (stored in the Toronto UniPost Access Node).

1.3 Regarding claim 28, the first voice mailbox maintains a first link list of pointers (message list), each list composes a pointer (message address) of the location on the storage device as discussed in claim 25.

1.4 Regarding claim 29, Gordon teaches deleting a message (column 10, lines 64-65), and it is inherent that once a message is deleted, the message is deleted from the list (including the pointer).

1.5 Regarding claim 31, as discussed in claim 25, Gordon teaches employing the Internet to retrieve a voice message (column 10, lines 31-55).

1.6 Regarding claim 33, Gordon teaches sending a message list to the first voice mailbox and the second voice mailbox, in that the voicemail message's is copied to the second voice mailbox.

1.7 Regarding claim 36, Gordon teaches accessing the voicemail message through Internet 4 as discussed in claim 25.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 22-25 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Picard US 6,233,318.

2.1 Regarding claims 22 and 25, Picard discloses a computer 142 in figure 6, comprising:

a first voicemail component (browser 144) that employs an internet protocol network to access one or more voicemail messages on one storage device (IMS 106)

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through the internet protocol network (column 6, lines 21-23, 42-46; column 7, 13-19; column 15, line 4 to column 16, line 26);

wherein the voicemail component comprises a first voice mailbox (a web page downloaded to computer 142, see figure 8);

wherein the first voice mailbox comprises an address of a location on the storage device, wherein the location on the storage device stores a voicemail message of one or more voicemail messages (e.g. a message link comprises a message address, see column 10, lines 52-55);

wherein the first mailbox employs the address to access the voicemail message at the location on the storage device (note: it is inherent that when a message link is doubled clicked, the address of linked message is transmitted from the computer to the Internet 136 and the IMS 106) (column 16, lines 14-19);

wherein the address comprises a domain name, a directory name and a file name of the voicemail message (column 10, lines 52-55); and

wherein the storage device stores an only copy of the voicemail message, wherein the voicemail message is not duplicated to the first voice mailbox (column 16, lines 19-26).

Picard teaches a first voicemail component (computer 144) with a first voice mailbox. Picard further teaches two computers in figure 4, but fails to teach that a user uses a second user computer (second voicemail component) to access his/her voicemail.

However, since a user owning multiple computers was well know (e.g. a desktop or home computer, and a laptop or office computer), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Picard's reference so that a user would have used either a desktop computer (first voicemail component, first voice mailbox), or a laptop computer (second voicemail component, second voice mailbox) to access his/her voicemail through Internet 136, because such a modification would have enabled a user to access his/her voicemail from different computers.

2.2 Regarding claim 23, as discussed in claim 22, each mailbox comprises an address in order to access a voicemail message.

2.3 Regarding claim 24, as discussed in claim 22, both the first voice mailbox and the second voice mailbox access the only copy of voice message stored in the IMS 106.

2.4 Regarding claim 34, as discussed in claim 22, the second voice mailbox, same as the first mailbox access the voicemail message through Internet 136.

3. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Picard US 6,233,318 in view of Hamel et al. US 5,943,402.

Picard teaches retrieving a voice message through Internet, but fails to teach modifying the voice message.

However, Hamel discloses a system for annotating and editing voice messages in figure 1. Hamel teaches segmenting a voice message (column 1, lines 55-67; column 2, lines 1-2, 15-21) and recordings voice comments to the voice message (column 8, lines 46-64).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the Picard's reference with the teaching of Hamel, so that a voice messaging system would have been able to modify a voice message, because such a modification would have enabled a user to add notes and comments to a voice message.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-6, 8-10, 13, 14, 16 and 18-21 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

4.1 Independent claim 1 of current invention discloses a voice messaging system having two of voice mailboxes (which do not store voice messages) linked to a storage device (which stores voice messages) via Internet. Each mailbox is linked to a particular voicemail message by a reference, stored in each mailbox, associated with

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said particular voicemail message. The storage device deletes the particular voicemail message once references of the voicemail message are deleted from both the first voice mailbox and the second voice mailbox. Gordon and Picard fail to teach this deleting feature.

4.2 independent claims 14 and 16 disclose a storage device coupled to a first voice mailbox and a second voice mailbox through Internet. Copying an address of a voicemail message from the first voice mailbox to the second voice mailbox, also comprising changing a correspondence of the voicemail message on the storage device from the first voice mailbox to the second voice mailbox. Gordon and Picard fail to teach copying an address by changing a correspondence of voice message in a storage device from a first voice mailbox to a second voice mailbox.

4.3 Claims 2-6, 8-10, 13, 18 and 19 are dependent on claim 1, and therefore allowed.

4.4 Claims 20 and 21 are dependent on claim 14, and therefore allowed.

5. Claim 30 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The current invention discloses voice messaging system with two voice mailboxes linked to a voice message stored in a storage device through Internet. When the voice message is deleted from the first voice mailbox, a link from the first mailbox is deleted, and then when the voice message is deleted from the second mailbox, the voice message itself is deleted. Gordon and Picard fails to teach these deleting steps.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

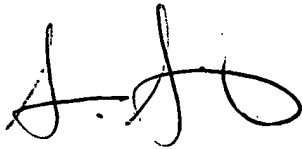
Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6,874,018 (Wu) and US 2004/0267610 (Gossett et al) disclose a method for transmitting an URL address from a user device to an information server when a link displayed on the user device is selected (WU: column 6, lines 12-18; column 9, lines 47-52. Gossett: para. 36, 37 and 43; figures 2A-2C).

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Simon Sing whose telephone number is (571) 272-7545. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang, can be reached at 571-272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.



S. Sing

11/11/2005



FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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